

In the Claims:

Please delete claims 1-17.

Please add the following new claims.

03
--18. A method for the attachment of a graft of a natural tendon or ligament to a bone of a patient, comprising the steps of:

- a) forming a hole in said bone;
- b) disposing at least a portion of the graft in said hole; and
- c) inserting a fixation screw device into said hole so that the fixation screw device engages the natural tendon or ligament of the graft and presses the natural tendon or ligament of the graft directly and firmly against a sidewall of said hole in said bone.--

--19. The method set forth in claim 18, wherein a second bone is adjacent to said bone, and further including the steps of:

- a) forming a second hole in said second bone;
- b) disposing a second portion of the graft in said second hole; and
- c) inserting a second fixation screw device into said second hole so that the second fixation screw device engages the natural tendon or ligament of the graft and presses the natural tendon or ligament of the graft directly and firmly against a sidewall of said second hole in said second bone.--

--20. The method set forth in claim 18 wherein said method is used for the reconstruction of an anterior cruciate ligament of a patient and said bone is a femur in the patient, and further comprising forming said hole from a suitable point in an intercondylar notch in said femur anteriorly and laterally.--

--21. The method set forth in claim 19 wherein said method is used for the reconstruction of an anterior cruciate ligament of a patient and said bone is a femur in the patient, and said second bone is a tibia in the patient; and

further comprising forming said hole from a suitable point in an intercondylar notch in said femur anteriorly and laterally, and forming said second hole through the tibia and open at one end adjacent a medial spine of the tibia.--

--22. The method set forth in claim 18, in which the fixation screw device is cannulated.--

--23. The method set forth in claim 18, in which the fixation screw device has a screw thread which is devoid of an outermost cutting line.--

--24. The method set forth in claim 18, in which the fixation screw device has a hemispherical head at the trailing end thereof.--

--25. The method set forth in claim 18, in which the fixation screw device has a screw thread which is substantially nontapered.--

--26. The method set forth in claim 19, in which the second fixation screw device is cannulated.--

--27. The method set forth in claim 19, in which the second fixation screw device has a screw thread which is devoid of an outermost cutting line.--

--28. The method set forth in claim 19, in which the second fixation screw device has a hemispherical head at the trailing end thereof.--

--29. The method set forth in claim 19, in which the second fixation screw device has a screw thread which is substantially nontapered.--

*Sub
B2* --30. A method for the reconstruction of an anterior cruciate ligament of a patient, comprising the steps of:

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a) forming a hole in a femur from a suitable point in an intercondylar notch in said femur anteriorly and laterally;

b) disposing at least a portion of a graft of a natural tendon or ligament in said hole; and

c) inserting a fixation screw device into said hole so that the fixation screw device engages the natural tendon or ligament of the graft and presses the natural tendon or ligament of the graft directly and firmly against a sidewall of said hole in said femur, the fixation screw device being cannulated and having a screw thread which is devoid of an outermost cutting line and is substantially nontapered, the fixation screw device having a hemispherical head at an end thereof.--

--31. The method set forth in claim 30 further including the steps of:

a) forming a hole in a tibia through the tibia and open at one end adjacent a medial spine of the tibia;

b) disposing a second portion of the graft in said tibia hole; and

c) inserting a second fixation screw device into said tibia hole so that the second fixation screw device engages the natural tendon or ligament of the graft and presses the natural tendon or ligament of the graft directly and firmly against a sidewall of said tibia hole, the second fixation screw device being cannulated and having a screw thread which is devoid of an outermost cutting line and is substantially nontapered, the second fixation screw device having a hemispherical head at an end thereof.--

In the Drawings:

The drawings have been amended by the enclosed letter to the Official Draftsman. Specifically, the dashed lines to the enlargement in Fig. 10 have been removed, and the enlargement has been given a separate figure number (Fig. 11).

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to conform to the amended drawings submitted herewith under a separate letter to the Official Draftsman.

Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced and requests entry of the above amendments.